The Member next said that the imposition of income tax and export duties on rubber, tea, timber and other products and the tapping of similar sources of revenue would not only remove the strain on the State finance but also provide enough funds for the improvement of irrigational facilities and the development of agricultural operations on which alone the prosperity of the ryot depended. The ryots were grateful for the manifold benefits bestowed upon them by the Agricultural department,—but, owing to financial conditions and to a small measure the ryot's conservative instincts, they were not able to effect any material change in the system of cultivation traditionally followed by them. The Member hoped that as conditions improved the ryot would be able to turn to practical effect the valuable advice given by agricultural experts.

Another subject of vital importance to the ryot was the preservation of cattle. It was incumbent on the Government to improve the local breeds of cattle so that they might be of real service to the agriculturists. The Member hoped that more veterinary hospitals would be opened in view of the increase in cattle mortality and that steps would also be taken for the stimulation of the growth of fodder crops and for the granting of loans to purchase fodder.

The Member next drew attention to co-operative societies. He suggested that strenuous efforts should be made for active propaganda work among the ryots for a dissemination of the knowledge of co-operative principles and the establishment primarily of some organisation or method whereby cultivators might obtain, without paying usurious rates of interest, the advances necessary for carrying on their business. He added that the establishment of mutual credit societies or agricultural banks under the guidance of the Co-operative department would alone remedy the present evils and that Government should infuse greater energy and activity into the working of the department.

The Member also urged for a more liberal policy regarding agricultural loans and suggested that the rules proposed to be framed under the Agricultural Loans Regulation should be framed in a liberal spirit, the interest being fixed at a low rate not exceeding the rate of interest charged for Anchal Savings Bank deposits.

In conclusion, the Member said that the existence of a complicated and iniquitous system of land tenures called for drastic and organic changes. He added that it was high time to standardise the capacity of the para instead of leaving the unfortunate tenant to the mercy of the grasping Jenmi and his formidable Karyastan.

Dewan's reply.—The Member's representation regarding the question of irrigation will receive attention. The other points raised by the Member are covered by answers already given.

147. Need for ameliorating the condition of the depressed classes.

Mr. K. P. Martandan Vaidyan (Member, Chirayinkil taluk) regretted that Government did not see their way to allow the Ezhava members to speak on the question of admission to temples and said that it had wounded the feelings of the members of his community. The Government did not even allow the members to point out that the question of admission into temples was not connected with religion.

The Member requested that Government might be pleased to adopt measures which would ameliorate the condition of the depressed classes in the manner already indicated by his brother Members.

Mr. A. K. Govinda Channar (Member, Nominated) endorsed the remarks of the previous Member and referred to his former representation on the same subject made at the 12th session of the Assembly for detailed suggestions and requested that early action might be taken to give effect to his proposals.

Dewan's reply.—Noted. The suggestions made by Mr. Channar at the 12th session of the Assembly will be considered.

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